PFD Maintenance

The following care instructions are provided to help you maintain the condition of your program issued personal flotation device (PFD). It is your responsibility to perform visual inspections of the buoyancy cells and inflation system at least once each quarter and report any maintenance issues to your program manager. Program staff will inspect all safety equipment prior to issuance and will use an authorized Mustang Service Station for all bladder or inflation system repairs.

Visually examine your PFD for damage or excessive abrasion, wear, tear or to bladder or fabric covering. If in doubt, return it to program for replacement.

Test battery on PFD strobe.

Check the oral inflation valve, fully inflate PFD and hold valve under water. If bubbles appear, deflate and inflate again. Should the leak persist, return to program for replacement.

Test for general leaks by orally inflating your PFD until firm and let stand overnight. A leaking PFD will not hold its firmness and should be replaced.

Inspect the CO_2 cylinder, if punctured, replace with a 33gram cylinder

Remove cylinder, auto cap and bobbin before washing. Apply a pre-wash stain remover to grease or blood and wash with regular detergent. Rinse with fresh water and hang dry. DO NOT USE BLEACH.

Reassemble inflation system parts and repack PFD as outlined in previous instructions and illustrations.

Store in warm, dry location

The following actions should be taken to reduce accidental inflation of your PFD.

Remove CO2 cylinder and auto cap during travel and between trips.

Store auto cap and bobbin in a ziplock bag, when not in use.

Frequently check the manual lever to ensure it is up in the ready position and the green indicator pin is present.

Check bobbin frequently. Replace bobbin every 6 months or when pitted in appearance.

*All PFD's will be marked with NMFS, the Program and a number. Any PFD that; no longer hold air; is unable to manually inflate; or reaches 5 years of age from the purchase date will be replaced.